

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

PAYING TRIBUTE TO CONGRESS-
MAN ELIJAH E. CUMMINGS

SPEECH OF

HON. SHEILA JACKSON LEE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, October 21, 2019

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Speaker, I thank my colleague, Congressman HORSFORD of Nevada for anchoring this Special Order in remembrance of Chairman Elijah Cummings, the indefatigable champion of justice and equality, the Chairman of the House Committee on Oversight, the Member of Congress from the Seventh Congressional District of Maryland since April 16, 1996, and above all, the devoted and beloved son of Baltimore.

Chairman Elijah Cummings died Thursday, October 17, 2019 at Johns Hopkins Hospital in Baltimore, Maryland; he was 68 years old.

Mr. Speaker, our friend Elijah Cummings was in every sense of the word a statesman and a gentleman who believed in bipartisanship and treated everyone equally and respectfully.

Born January 18, 1951 in Baltimore, Maryland, to Robert and Ruth Cummings, South Carolina sharecroppers, who followed the Great Migration north to factory jobs in Baltimore, Elijah Eugene Cummings was the third of seven children.

After graduating from Baltimore City College High School in 1969, Elijah Cummings attended Howard University in Washington, D.C., where he was elected President of the student government and graduated in 1973 with a degree in political science, earning honors as Phi Beta Kappa.

Mr. Speaker, you may be interested to know that Elijah Cummings went on to earn a law degree from the University of Maryland School of Law.

Elijah Cummings' matriculation and graduation from the University of Maryland School of Law was poetic justice because a generation before it had denied admission to another son of Baltimore, the legendary Thurgood Marshall, who then went to the Howard University School of Law and later became the greatest social engineer and the architect and instrument of the strategy that defeated Jim Crow and toppled de jure segregation at the University of Maryland School of Law.

Elijah Cummings practiced law for 14 years in Baltimore and in 1982 he was elected to the House of Delegates of the Maryland General Assembly where he served for 14 years.

In the Maryland General Assembly, he served as Chairman of the Legislative Black Caucus of Maryland and was the first African American in Maryland history to be named Speaker Pro Tempore, the second highest position in the House of Delegates, earning a reputation as a champion of progressive and liberal causes and constituencies and as a skilled census-builder.

Mr. Speaker, in 1996 when Congressman Kweisi Mfume resigned to assume the presidency of the United Negro College Fund, Elijah Cummings ran in and easily won the special election created by the vacancy with 80 percent of the popular vote.

Elijah Cummings was re-elected to the 105th Congress and each of the succeeding Congresses until his untimely death, never winning with less than 70 percent of the vote.

In Elijah Cummings' maiden address as a member of Congress he vowed that he would make use of his limited time in Congress:

I only have a minute.
Sixty seconds in it.
Forced upon me, I did not choose it,
But I know that I must use it.
Give account if I abuse it.
Suffer, if I lose it.
Only a tiny little minute,
But eternity is in it.

Mr. Speaker, Elijah Cummings made good on that prophetic promise from the start.

As a Member of Congress, Elijah Cummings served on the Committees on Transportation and Infrastructure and on Oversight and Government Reform.

As a freshman member, Elijah Cummings championed and supported health care and labor legislation.

In 2003, Elijah Cummings was elected as Chairman of the Congressional Black Caucus.

In the 112th Congress, Elijah Cummings was elected by his colleagues to be Ranking Member of what is now known as the Committee on Oversight and Reform and in the 115th Congress was appointed by the Democratic Leader NANCY PELOSI to the Benghazi Committee.

One of my proudest moments was working with Elijah Cummings to secure passage of H.R. 1076, the Fair Chance Act, which would "ban the box" in federal hiring by restricting federal employers and contractors from asking about the criminal histories of applicants until the conditional offer stage.

The Fair Chance Act would give formerly incarcerated people a fair chance at a job and a piece of the American dream.

I was proud to have been able to work with Chairman Elijah Cummings in support of this legislation and other legislative goals of mutual interest and concern like reducing gun violence and eliminating unfair policing in communities of color.

Mr. Speaker, Elijah Cummings dedicated his life to serving and uplifting others and empowering the people he was sworn to represent; he was a man for and of the people, going to the streets and ensuring that their voices were heard.

Elijah Cummings received national attention in 2015 when he walked the streets of Baltimore, his notable bullhorn in hand, and pleaded for calm after riots erupted in his neighborhood after the funeral of Freddie Gray, a young black man who died in police custody.

Elijah Cummings took the issues of his constituents to heart; many of us recall how he

fought for meaning in the death of young Deamonte Driver, a 12-year-old Maryland boy who died from an untreated tooth infection.

Elijah Cummings often said that "our children are the living messages that we send to a future we will never see" and was committed to ensuring that the next generation had access to quality healthcare and education, clean air and water, and a strong economy defined by fiscal responsibility.

Elijah Cummings had a servant's heart and was imbued with an ethic of service and inspired countless numbers of persons fight for their beliefs.

Unsurpassed was this native of Baltimore's love for his hometown.

That could also be seen by his response to the current President's belittling Baltimore and his congressional district as a "disgusting, rat and rodent infested mess" to which Elijah Cummings invited the President to join him in the important work of ensuring that all Americans had accessible, affordable, high quality health care.

Elijah Cummings' passion was not reserved for his district and the city of Baltimore; he also deeply loved his country.

As Ranking Member and the Chairman of the House Committee on Oversight and Reform, Elijah Cummings brought his intellect to what he called "the fight for the soul of our democracy."

Elijah Cummings deeply believed in our democratic system and values and worked tirelessly to preserve them and exhorted everyone to the same.

When we're dancing with the angels, the question will be asked, in 2019, what did we do to make sure we kept our democracy intact? Did we stand on the sidelines and say nothing?"

In the words of his widow, Dr. Maya Rockey Moore Cummings, Elijah Cummings "worked until his last breath because he believed our democracy was the highest and best expression of our collective humanity and that our nation's diversity was our promise, not our problem."

Mr. Speaker, the life of Elijah Cummings is a testament to what a person of goodwill can accomplish with a servant's heart and the understanding that in the passion play of life you only have a minute, but all eternity is in it.

Elijah Cummings did not waste his minute of eternity.

Elijah Cummings will live forever in the hearts of the people of his hometown Baltimore, his state of Maryland, and the United States.

To his widow Maya, his children, and family and friends he loved and who loved him so dearly, my deepest sympathies go out to them, and I hope they find consolation in the certain knowledge that our beloved Elijah is now dancing with the angels.

• This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO CONGRESS-
MAN ELIJAH E. CUMMINGS

SPEECH OF

HON. HENRY C. "HANK" JOHNSON, JR.

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, October 21, 2019

Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I am deeply saddened by the passing of Representative Elijah Cummings—my colleague, friend, and a true fighter for social justice. While Representative Cummings may no longer be with us, he leaves behind a remarkable legacy of service, leadership and humility. Notably, he served Maryland's 7th Congressional District for 23 years and was a strong force in his role as Chairman of the Oversight Committee.

He is the realization of the American Dream. Born to sharecroppers, young Elijah Cummings declared he would become a lawyer at 11-years old. Despite social and economic challenges before him, he would go on to achieve that dream and more. Representative Cummings became the first African-American Speaker Pro Tempore of the Maryland State House of Delegates and then continued his work in this House. He was a dedicated public servant, devoted husband, and loving father.

Representative Cummings was a maverick among us all, and I will deeply miss his wise counsel and presence. May we all aspire to be a portion of the leader he was for America.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. A. DONALD McEACHIN

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 22, 2019

Mr. McEACHIN. Madam Speaker, I was unavoidably detained on October 17, 2019 during roll call No. 561, On Agreeing to the Amendment, H.R. 1815, Huizenga of Michigan Part B Amendment No. 1. Had I been present, I would have voted "No." I was also unavoidably detained during roll call No. 562, On Agreeing to the Amendment, H.R. 1815, Gottheimer of New Jersey Part B Amendment No. 2. Had I been present, I would have voted "aye." I was also unavoidably detained during roll call No. 563, On Agreeing to the Amendment, H.R. 1815, Wagner of Missouri Part B Amendment No. 3. Had I been present, I would have voted "no." I was also unavoidably detained during roll call No. 564, On Passage, H.R. 1815, SEC Disclosure Effectiveness Testing Act. Had I been present, I would have voted "yea."

RECOGNIZING GEORGE FORMAN

HON. RAUL RUIZ

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 22, 2019

Mr. RUIZ. Madam Speaker, I rise to recognize George Forman, who has been a champion for tribes and tribal sovereignty for more than 50 years.

I am honored to represent eleven federally recognized tribes in my district. Each of the

eleven tribes has had to fight for their rights and their sovereignty at every turn.

Standing with tribes in that fight and leading with them are the attorneys who represent them in the court of law.

George was instrumental in securing victory for tribes in the Cabazon case that set the groundwork for tribes to transform their on-reservation economies and conduct gaming operations, which has empowered tribes' self-sufficiency to provide adequate housing, schools, and other needed social services for tribal members.

He has successfully helped several tribes fight their unjust termination and achieve recognition as federally recognized tribes.

And over the decades, George has served my constituents, the Morongo Band of Mission Indians, providing advice and counsel with the highest of integrity.

I want to thank George for his work and wish him a long, happy retirement filled with well-earned family time.

HONORING TALLWOOD
ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

HON. ELAINE G. LURIA

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 22, 2019

Mrs. LURIA. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate and honor Tallwood Elementary School on earning the U.S. Department of Education Blue Ribbon award.

Tallwood Elementary's performance certainly merits this well-earned recognition. Because of so much hard work, Tallwood Elementary is now placed in the Exemplary High Performing Schools Category. I would like to thank the faculty and staff for providing exceptional services to our community as educators, administrators, and specialists in their field.

Our public school system is an integral part of preparing the 2nd Congressional District's next generation of well-informed critical thinkers. I thank them for all the valuable work they do to engage and enrich these young minds.

It is my honor and privilege to recognize Tallwood Elementary for this achievement. I am extremely proud to be their representative.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. FRED KELLER

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 22, 2019

Mr. KELLER. Madam Speaker, I had a commitment in Pennsylvania preventing me from returning in time for votes. Had I been present, I would have voted "nay" on rollcall No. 568 on Motion To Table H. Res. 630; "yea" on rollcall No. 569, H.R. 4406; and "yea" on rollcall No. 570, H.R. 4407.

IN HONOR OF 81 AIRBORNE SOLDIERS OF THE REPUBLIC OF VIETNAM ARMED FORCES

HON. ALAN S. LOWENTHAL

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 22, 2019

Mr. LOWENTHAL. Madam Speaker, I rise today in honor of the 81 Airborne Soldiers of the Republic of Vietnam Armed Forces, whose remains will finally be laid to rest on Saturday, October 26th, in Little Saigon, Orange County, California, part of my 47th Congressional District.

In 1965, an American C-123 carrying four American crew members and 81 South Vietnamese Airborne soldiers was shot down in a remote and contested area during the Vietnam War, killing all those onboard. In 1974, the crash site was visited, and the remains were recovered, however, they were commingled together. The American crew members were later identified and were given a proper burial.

The remains of South Vietnamese soldiers were never identified, and they were believed to have been members of the 72 Company of the elite 7 Airborne Battalion of the Republic of Vietnam Armed Forces. These unknown heroes are now "Men Without a Country," for that the Republic to which they gave their lives on behalf of no longer exist. Their remains have been sitting at the U.S. military's POW/MIA lab in Hawaii since 1986 and the current regime in Vietnam has twice declined to accept their return.

It was unclear how these 81 unknown soldiers could receive proper honor and burial until the efforts of former Navy Secretary and Senator Jim Webb, who served as a Marine infantry officer in Vietnam. Senator Webb has spent the last two years working intricately with both diplomatic and legal fronts to successfully arranged for the proper honoring and interment of these heroes. Finally, these Airborne soldiers will be laid to rest with full military honor and proper protocols of the Republic of Vietnam Armed Forces. They will be remembered and honored with a ceremony at the Vietnam War Memorial, also known as Freedom Park in the City of Westminster, California and interned at the Vietnamese Boat People Cemetery inside the Westminster Memorial Park, one of the largest Vietnamese American cemeteries in our nation. This marks an end to an epic journey of soldiers who fought and died for the ideals of freedom and democracy to be rested with the people whom they defended.

I thank Senator Jim Webb, the Lost Soldiers Foundation, the Republic of Vietnam Airborne Association's National and Local Chapter, and everyone involved for working together to finally honor these 81 soldiers of the Armed Forces of the Republic of Vietnam after 54 years of their sacrifices. The United States honor the sacrifices of our ally, the Republic of Vietnam Armed Forces.

KASHMIRI PANDITS BRIEFING

HON. RO KHANNA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 22, 2019

Mr. KHANNA. Madam Speaker, I was moved by the stories of loss, displacement,

and suffering of the Kashmiri Pandits at a briefing hosted by my dear friend and mentor, Congresswoman ANNA ESHOO. I appreciated the Pandits coming to Capitol Hill to tell their stories. I want to recognize and thank Jeevan Zutshi, my constituent, for his leadership in organizing this forum.

I was encouraged to see other key leaders of Congress attend like ZOE LOFGREN, ELIOT ENGEL, and MIKE THOMPSON. As we consider the complexities of South Asia, we need to make sure that all Kashmiri stories of loss are heard and recognized, and be sure to stand up for human rights of all faiths. India was founded on the promise of a pluralistic society, and Madam Speaker, it's now more important than ever to stand up for those ideals.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. DOUG COLLINS

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 22, 2019

Mr. COLLINS. Madam Speaker, I was absent due to a family emergency. Had I been present, I would have voted "nay" on rollcall No. 568; "yea" on rollcall No. 569; and "yea" on rollcall No. 570.

IN RECOGNITION OF GRACE QUINN GOODPASTURE

HON. ROBERT J. WITTMAN

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 22, 2019

Mr. WITTMAN. Madam Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Grace Quinn Goodpasture for being selected as a recipient of a Student-Athlete-Scholarship from the National Interscholastic Athletic Administrators Association.

Grace attends the Steward School in Ashland, Virginia, where she played 4 years of Varsity Soccer, lettering all four years. She was also a member of the Varsity Cross Country and Dive team, lettering in those as well. She says community service is a core value of her family and has always been a part of her life. She has earned her Gold Award in the Girl Scouts and was a Senate Page for the Virginia Senate. Her spirit of service should inspire all of us.

I commend her on receiving this recognition for her distinguished scholastic, leadership, and sportsmanship attributes and the importance of high school athletics in her life. Recognition of her work in the community, in the classroom, and on the athletic field is a testament to her commitment to hard work and service to others. She is an example of the leaders that we will need to guide our nation and the Virginia Commonwealth in the future.

Madam Speaker, I ask you to join me in recognizing Grace Goodpasture for her achievements in her community. May God bless Grace and her family.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. TOM COLE

OF OKLAHOMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 22, 2019

Mr. COLE. Madam Speaker, I was not present for the following vote which took place on October 21, 2019. However, if I had been present, I would have voted "yea" on: H.R. 4407—SCORE for Small Business Act.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE 100TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE FOUNDING OF BELL'S SEED STORE

HON. TED BUDD

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 22, 2019

Mr. BUDD. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Bell's Seed Store on the 100 year anniversary of their founding.

In 1919, Bell's Seed Store was opened by William M. Bell. Bell's Seed Store quickly became a staple in Fayetteville. As the city grew and rural roads and farms gave way to streets and industry, Bell's Seed Store continued to thrive, adapting to changing consumer demands.

In 1957, the store moved from its original location beside the old courthouse on Gillespie Street to its current home on East Russell Street, where it occupies an impressive four-acre campus that houses four separate facilities, two for retail and two for storage. While mainstay agriculture products such as animal feed, hay, and fertilizers originally comprised the majority of Bell's sales, many customers today are also interested in a unique selection of home and garden accents.

At its core, Bell's Seed Store is a family business spanning generations. William M. Bell Jr. took over operations from his father, managing the store until the late 1980's. Stewart Bell, William Jr.'s son, started working at Bell's right after college. Today, he has since become the third Bell to take the reins of a business which has expanded and developed into one of Fayetteville's oldest and most cherished family-run enterprises. As I extend my gratitude to Andrew Bell for his service as Chief of Staff here in Washington, I know he will be a welcome fourth generation to this family business.

100 years in business means 100 years of gaining the trust of the community by providing excellent service and reliable products. Bell's Seed Store has truly ingrained itself within Fayetteville, as generations of customers have walked out of its store satisfied, continuing a tradition which, like Bell's Seed Store, spans a century.

Madam Speaker, please join me today in honoring Bell's Seed Store for 100 years of business.

CONGRATULATING COREY BOBY ON RECEIVING THE PRESIDENTIAL AWARD FOR EXCELLENCE IN MATHEMATICS AND SCIENCE TEACHING

HON. BRUCE WESTERMAN

OF ARKANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 22, 2019

Mr. WESTERMAN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Fourth District educator Corey Bobby for receiving the Presidential Award for Excellence in Mathematics and Science Teaching.

It is an honor today to recognize his hard work and dedication to excellence in teaching mathematics and science. Mr. Bobby has long been a devoted educator to the students of the Fourth District of Arkansas. After serving for several years as an educator within the Arkansas school system, Mr. Bobby now serves at the Dawson Education Cooperative in Arkadelphia, one of the state's fifteen education cooperatives.

The Presidential Award for Excellence in Mathematics and Science Teaching is one of the highest honors which is bestowed upon a kindergarten through 12th grade science, technology, engineering, mathematics, or computer science teacher. I am pleased to see one of the Fourth District's own ranked among the finest educators our nation has to offer.

I take this time to congratulate Mr. Bobby on this tremendous honor, but also to thank him for his commitment to advancing the STEM skills and academic excellence of Arkansas students.

CONGRATULATING RICHARD APPLE ON RECEIVING THE NATIONAL CITIZEN SCIENTIST CHAMPION AWARD FROM THE GLOBAL ALZHEIMER'S PLATFORM FOUNDATION

HON. CHERI BUSTOS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 22, 2019

Mrs. BUSTOS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Richard Apple, the recipient of the first ever National Citizen Scientist Champion Award from the Global Alzheimer's Platform Foundation. This award recognizes Mr. Apple for his advocacy for Alzheimer's clinical trial participation in Illinois.

A resident of Rockford, Illinois, Mr. Apple's passion for Alzheimer's research advocacy stems from losing both of his grandparents to Alzheimer's and having been the primary caregiver to his uncle and his mother, both of whom died from the disease. He has since devoted his time to aiding in research, enrolling in his first trial at Great Lakes Clinical Trials in Chicago, IL immediately after he retired and has participated in four since then. I want to thank Mr. Apple for his contributions to science and furthering the cause to find a cure for Alzheimer's.

It is because of community leaders such as Richard Apple that I am especially proud to serve Illinois' 17th Congressional District. Madam Speaker, I would like to again formally congratulate Richard Apple on his receipt of

the National Citizen Scientist Champion Award from the Global Alzheimer's Platform Foundation.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. A. DONALD McEACHIN

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 22, 2019

Mr. McEACHIN. Madam Speaker, I was unavoidably detained on October 18, 2019 during roll call no. 565, On Agreeing to the Amendment, H.R. 3624, Huizenga of Michigan Part C Amendment No. 1. Had I been present, I would have voted "no." I was also unavoidably detained during roll call no. 566, On Agreeing to the Amendment, H.R. 3624, Hill of Arkansas Part C Amendment No. 2. Had I been present, I would have voted "no." I was also unavoidably detained during roll call no. 567, On Passage, H.R. 3624, Outsourcing Accountability Act of 2019. Had I been present, I would have voted "yea."

RECOGNIZING THE LIFE AND MILITARY SERVICE OF LIEUTENANT COLONEL JOHN DALE FORD

HON. TRENT KELLY

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 22, 2019

Mr. KELLY of Mississippi. Madam Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the life and military service of Lieutenant Colonel John Dale "JD" Ford, who passed away on October 11 at the age of 56.

JD was born on October 16, 1962, in Laurel, Mississippi. He was a graduate of Taylorsville High School, where he was the second basemen for the Taylorsville Tartars baseball team. After graduation, he pursued higher education at Belhaven University in Jackson, Mississippi.

JD answered the call to serve our great nation in the Mississippi National Guard and retired as a Lieutenant Colonel in October of 2018. As a Mississippi Guardsman, JD worked in the United States Property and Fiscal Operations Department for 36 years and deployed to Kuwait and Iraq.

Left to cherish his memory is his wife of 29 years, Bobbi Jo Ford of Brandon, Mississippi; his sons—John Dale Ford, Jr. and William Robert Ford; his daughter, Maci Ford Whyte of Brandon, Mississippi; his sisters—Marilyn Naron of Brandon, Mississippi, Nancy Ford of Brandon, Mississippi, and Emily Evans of Taylorsville, Mississippi; as well as many nieces and nephews and extended family members.

Lieutenant Colonel John Dale Ford's life was one of service, grace, love for his family, and community. He will be greatly missed by all whom he encountered.

HONORING THE LIFE OF MRS. GERTRUDE NEWSOME-JACKSON

HON. ERIC A. "RICK" CRAWFORD

OF ARKANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 22, 2019

Mr. CRAWFORD. Madam Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Gertrude Newsome-

Jackson of Philips County, who fought for civil rights throughout her entire life. A mother of 11 children, Mrs. Jackson was known throughout the Delta area as a leader in the civil-rights movement. Jackson has received recognition and honor from president's and her community members alike. Her work and legacy will forever continue to impact the great people of Arkansas.

In the 1960's, Gertrude Jackson and her husband Earlis Jackson hosted the Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee (SNCC), which was quintessential in the work of desegregation throughout Arkansas and the country. With some ideas from the SNCC and inspiration from her children, she led a boycott and law suit for the desegregation and sewage fixing of Turner Elementary schools and all the surrounding local schools.

Mrs. Jackson's efforts led the United States Court of Appeals for the Eighth Circuit to mandate the school district "to fully and effectively desegregate not only all facilities but the faculty and classes effective at the beginning of the 1970–71 school year." Gertrude Jackson's spirit to serve her community also led her to establish the Boys, Girls, Adults Community development center that continues to facilitate the community today in Marvell, Arkansas. I am eternally grateful for Gertrude Jackson service in our district and state.

BASELESS ATTACKS ON PRESIDENT TRUMP

HON. JOE WILSON

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 22, 2019

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Madam Speaker, since the day President Donald Trump was elected, bitter Democrats have been obsessively scheming for any sign of alleged wrongdoing and citing impeachment of the duly elected President. Every time a new accusation comes to light, it is contrived by unsubstantiated evidence and later disproved, wasting already over \$35 million of taxpayers' hard earned money. It is disappointing that instead of addressing issues for American families, House Speaker NANCY PELOSI continues this divisive, unsubstantiated attack on President Trump.

Instead of addressing issues truly affecting Americans, such as passing the United States-Mexico-Canada-Agreement (USMCA) or repealing the unjust "Widow's Tax," House Democrats continues this attempt to mislead the American people with baseless attacks on President Trump. The House Speaker's refusal to hold a floor vote where all House members can vote to authorize this inquiry conceals a public process. Let me be clear, there is no reason for these accusations aside from bitter partisan politics.

In conclusion, God Bless our Troops, and we will never forget September 11th in the Global War on Terrorism.

CONGRATULATING DAVE CHAPPELLE

HON. ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON

OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 22, 2019

Ms. NORTON. Madam Speaker, I rise today to ask the House of Representatives to join me in congratulating Dave Chappelle for receiving the Mark Twain Prize for American Humor this year.

On October 27, 2019, Dave Chappelle will be the recipient of the 22nd annual Mark Twain Prize for American Humor. He will be the first District of Columbia-born recipient of this award, making D.C. residents exceedingly proud of his recognition.

Chappelle, who graduated from Duke Ellington School of the Arts (Duke Ellington), the city's premier performing arts high school, attributes a great deal of his success to his upbringing in the Nation's Capital and to Duke Ellington. At Duke Ellington, he was inspired by his older peers to do better and take risks in artistic expression.

After graduating from Duke Ellington, Chappelle committed to standup comedy. He later went on to produce and star in his own show, "the Dave Chappelle Show," and earn an Emmy for his performance on Saturday Night Live. His collection of awards now includes two Emmys and two Grammys.

Chappelle has never forgotten D.C. as his home. He has gone back to Duke Ellington to speak and inspire students, often reflecting on his own time at the school. He graciously gave the school his Emmy in 2017, impressing on the students that fighting the odds is possible. He is an advocate for equal rights for D.C. residents, and D.C. residents returned the love in 2017 when Chappelle was painted, alongside other well-known African American Washingtonians, on the wall of Ben's Chili Bowl on U Street.

The Mark Twain Prize for American Humor is an annual award given to individuals who have impacted society in ways similar to 19th-century novelist and essayist Samuel Clemens (Mark Twain). Like Mark Twain, Chappelle is an intense observer of society. I could not agree more with Kennedy Center President Deborah F. Rutter when she said, "Dave is the embodiment of Mark Twain's observation that 'against the assault of humor, nothing can stand.'"

As a recipient of the Mark Twain Prize, Chappelle follows in the footsteps of America's best comedians, most recently, Julia Louis-Dreyfus, David Letterman, Bill Murray, Eddie Murphy and Jay Leno.

Madam Speaker, I ask the House of Representatives to honor Dave Chappelle for his contributions to the art of humor, for his contributions to the District of Columbia through his comedy and advocacy, and for receiving the Mark Twain Prize for American Humor.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. BRIAN BABIN

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 22, 2019

Mr. BABIN. Madam Speaker, had I been present, I would have voted "yea" on Roll Call No. 569.

INTRODUCTION OF THE NEIL ARMSTRONG TEST FACILITY RENAMING

HON. MARCY KAPTUR

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 22, 2019

Ms. KAPTUR. Madam Speaker, today I introduce bipartisan legislation to rename NASA's Plum Brook Station in Sandusky, Ohio in honor of Neil Armstrong. Plum Brook is part of the NASA John H. Glenn Research Center and is home to unique world-class facilities that conduct critical and innovative ground tests for the international aerospace community. Plum Brook Station is testing a new generation of space exploration hardware for NASA's efforts to explore the lunar surface and to again land humans on the Moon. Similar legislation has been introduced in the Senate by Senators BROWN (D-OH) and PORTMAN (R-OH).

Ohio is not only the birthplace of aviation, it is also the birthplace of one of human history's all-time great explorers and aviators: Neil Armstrong, the first man to ever set foot anywhere other than on our planet Earth. A native Ohioan, Neil Armstrong served as a Navy pilot and later served the National Advisory Committee for Aeronautics (NACA) at the Lewis Flight Propulsion Laboratory, now known as north east Ohio's NASA John H. Glenn Research Center, of which NASA Plum Brook is affiliated.

Armstrong's 'small step for man, one giant leap for mankind' has gone down as one of the most significant and memorable events in human history. Armstrong has inspired countless young people to pursue careers in aviation and public service, young people who will carry on and build upon his immeasurable legacy. It is an honor to introduce this bipartisan legislation alongside Rep. GONZALEZ in the House and Senators BROWN and PORTMAN in the Senate. I urge my colleagues to support this legislation.

RECOGNIZING FALLEN PARATROOPERS OF THE ARMY OF THE REPUBLIC OF VIETNAM

HON. HARLEY ROUDA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 22, 2019

Mr. ROUDA. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the 81 paratroopers of the Army

of the Republic of Vietnam whose remains will find a final resting place in Orange County this weekend.

These brave soldiers—whose names we may never know—were killed in 1965 aboard an American crew members. For the last 33 years, the commingled remains of these paratroopers had remained in Hawaii, their destination unknown. After years of ambiguity, they will be laid to rest in the heart of the Vietnamese community in the United States.

This weekend's service reminds us of America's enduring commitment to our allies and partners, to those who stand beside us in the face of great peril to themselves and their families. For too long, South Vietnamese soldiers who fought and died alongside American forces have not received the recognition they earned.

I am proud to represent a community that remembers those South Vietnamese fighters who gave the ultimate sacrifice standing alongside American servicemembers. I join the Vietnamese-American community—especially the ARVN veterans not only in Orange County but across our nation—in remembrance and appreciation for these paratroopers.

I urge all members to join me in recognizing the South Vietnamese fighters who fought alongside United States forces during the Vietnam War, especially those 81 who will be laid to their final resting place in Orange County this weekend.

RECOGNIZING MICHAEL J. WILLIAMS

HON. ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON

OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 22, 2019

Ms. NORTON. Madam Speaker, I rise today to ask the House of Representatives to recognize and honor Children's National Hospital Board Chair Michael J. Williams for his leadership and dedication to the health and well-being of children and families in the District of Columbia and the national capital region.

Mr. Williams' service to Children's National and the children and families of the District of Columbia, the national capital region and beyond has been notable and profound. During his five years as Chair, Children's National has served 22,000 patients in its hospital and 650,000 through its clinics.

Through his leadership, Children's National has continued to achieve and improve its

ranking by US News & World Report as one of the Top 10 Pediatric Hospitals in the country and for three years in a row it has been ranked as the country's No. 1 Neonatal Intensive Care Unit. Further, Children's National achieved Magnet designation for Outstanding Nursing Care during Mr. Williams' last year as Chair.

During Mr. Williams' tenure as Chair, Children's National launched the creation of the Children's National Research & Innovation Campus at the former Walter Reed Medical Center. This will be the first of its kind in the nation to focus on pediatric research and innovation. It will also be the home to JLABS @ Washington, DC, a collaboration with Johnson & Johnson Innovation LLC, providing incubation space for companies that are seeking to advance the development of new drugs and medical devices, including applications in pediatrics. Children's National also entered into another key partnership aimed at improving access to health care for a unique patient population when it integrated with the HSC Health System.

Even though Mr. Williams retired as Chair of the Board on October 1, 2019, I am pleased that he will continue his service to children by remaining on the Children's National Board through June 2020. In addition, he will be a Director on the board of the HSC Foundation.

As Chair, Mr. Williams has skillfully and successfully guided Children's National through a period of significant change.

Madam Speaker, I ask the House of Representatives to honor Michael J. Williams for his leadership and service to Children's National, and for the exceptionally valuable contributions he has made to the health and welfare of children and families of the District of Columbia and the national capital region.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. FRED UPTON

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 22, 2019

Mr. UPTON. Madam Speaker, I was attending a funeral Monday afternoon and was not able to get back before the votes concluded. Had I been present, I would have voted "nay" on Roll Call No. 568; "yea" on Roll Call No. 569; and "yea" on Roll Call No. 570.